



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 23.13, Weeks Of: July 7 and July 14, 2019

NOTABLE NOTES FROM...

PASTOR GREG

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

I was invited to give the opening prayer at the Unicameral on May 30th. This prayer took inspiration from Rev. Peter Marshall, a Presbyterian Pastor who led Westminster Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington D.C., and was the chaplain of the US Senate from 1947-1949. Some of you may have seen the movie about his life, *A Man Called Peter*, which was nominated for an Oscar in 1955. I commend it to you.

Praying for our leaders is something that we can all do every day. Let us pray for God to guide them and inspire them to lead with courage and compassion. You will note that the closing section of the prayer is in Spanish. We know that God hears our prayers in any language, but I thought it would serve as a good reminder for all of us that we are all God's children, no matter what language we speak. I had a number of Senators thank me after I gave the prayer for including the closing in Spanish. Below is the text of the prayer that I wrote and shared at the Unicameral on May 30th.

Gracious and loving God, we pray for this state and the people who have been called here to govern it. We need your help at all times, and we ask for it today.

We pray for the leaders of this state. Help them continue down the right path, a path of compassion, of justice, and of authentic love for all residents of this state. Remind them that each person in their district is a precious child of God, even those that may disagree with them. As God's children, each person is deserving of dignity and love.

Give these legislators the fortitude to admit when they have made a mistake. Take away from all of us the stubborn pride that imagines itself to be above and beyond criticism. Let no personal ambition blind them to the opportunities to serve others. Help them to give battle to hypocrisy wherever they find it. Give them divine common sense and a selflessness that shall make them think of service and not gain.

May they have the courage to lead the people of this state with wisdom and compassion as their guide. May they be led by You to do what is right rather than what is expedient. May they be blessed with a gentleness and humility that allows them to authentically hear one another and the voices of all of their constituents.

Help them to be understanding while also standing for what is right and good and fair and just. Lord, help us all to be ministers of mercy and ambassadors of kindness.

We also pray for our state today. May those impacted by the floods and tornados find relief. May they feel your love through the people coming to their aid. May you inspire us all to respond to the needs we see before us.

Para terminar, hermanos y hermanas, deseo que vivan felices y busquen compasión en su trabajo como senadores. Anímense y vivan en armonía y paz, y el Dios de amor y de paz estará con ustedes. Que la gracia del Señor Jesucristo, el amor de Dios y la presencia constante del Espíritu Santo estén con todos ustedes. (In closing, brothers and sisters, I hope that you find joy and seek compassion in your job as senators. Live in harmony and peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the constant presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all.) Amen

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Greg

FPC Prayers for:

Celia & Wayne Ganow
Georgia Ochsner
Don Canady
Jim Harrenstein
Darleen Howard

Russel Hilger (Ashley Mullen's father)
The Family of John Harrington
Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay's brother-in law)
Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)
The Family of Susie Frerichs

The Family of Laurie Loftquist
Nancy Ziemba and family
The Family of Lois Hahne
The Family of Kay Georgiana
Starla Rethorst

Please let us know if you would like to be added to, or removed from, the prayer list by calling the church office at 402-462-5147.

Need a ride to church on Sundays? Call Deacon Moderator Joan Shaw at [402-460-8195](tel:402-460-8195) or the church office at [402-462-5147](tel:402-462-5147).

The radio broadcast airs during Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. on KICS 1550 AM.

Sunday's service will be broadcast live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings and on Channel 181 Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

For those living at Good Samaritan Village, Sunday's service will be broadcast on Channel 3 on Sunday at 12:00 noon and on Tuesday at 2:00 p.m.

"When working with your attorney to **update your will and estate plan**, please consider including a gift to the First Presbyterian Church Foundation."

--Dave Dirks, Moderator of the Foundation

HOSPITAL REMINDER

Due to hospital privacy regulations, for the church to know that either you or a family member will be hospitalized or have been admitted, please take a moment and call the church office at 402-462-5147. Remember... we don't always know what's happening unless you tell us!

A copy of any Sunday service is available on DVD disc upon request at no charge. Contact the church office at [402-462-5147](tel:402-462-5147).



Work Shirts Needed for Proteus to protect the migrant workers from the summer sun and exposure to agricultural chemicals. Please bring long-sleeved shirts you are no longer using and place them in the specially marked tub in the Memorial Room. 96 ball caps, donated by Darrel Lloyd and others, plus 62 shirts and have been delivered.

Mission Committee Update The mission committee delivered 75 mini tubes of toothpaste,

bottles of shampoo, and lotions to SASA for the care packages for their new women clients. Remember when you travel this summer to pick up unopened mini bottles and packages for future deliveries.

Hastings Food Pantry Thank you for your generous donation of 5 bags of groceries given on June 19th. So many people will be blessed with this donation as it helps needy people in our community! It is through donations of caring people like you that we are able to meet the needs of the hungry in our community. Since 1982, the Hastings Food Pantry has been privileged to serve Hastings and the surrounding area with emergency food.

To Pastor Greg, the Session, and the members of the congregation of First Presbyterian Church in Hastings:

I am most grateful for making the celebration of my 50 years of ministry so special. It was way beyond my expectation and gave Donna and me a tremendous feeling of your Christian love. It was that love we felt so many years ago which was such a blessing to us in the early years of our ministry. Your faith and love have remained constant. We are most grateful for the blessing by Pastor Greg in the worship service and for the beautiful cake reception following the service. May God's love and peace be with you always.

-Duane and Donna Queen

In memory of...

- ❖ John Harrington passed away June 10, 2019. Memorial services were held July 5, 2019, at First Presbyterian Church.
- ❖ Robert C. Jones, Sr. passed away June 6, 2019. Services were held June 13, 2019.
- ❖ Susie Frerichs passed away June 14, 2019. Memorial Service will be held at 2:00pm on July 12, 2019, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, in Kearney, NE.

July Communion Offering is Project Homeless Connect, Hastings - a one-day, one-stop event July 25th (10-4pm) where individuals and families who are homeless or near homeless can receive a variety of immediate, on-site services and support, connecting those in need to medical services, free clothing, a hot meal, and much more.



Mark your calendar! The **Summer Book Club** will begin meeting on Wednesdays, July 17-August 21 at noon. We will discuss David Galston's book *Embracing the Human Jesus: A Wisdom Path for Contemporary Christianity*.

The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be **Tuesday, September 3, 2019**, from 12 noon – 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar now! To donate or volunteer your time, please call Erica Brooks, FPC Parish Nurse, at [402-469-9285](tel:402-469-9285) or sign up at www.redcrossblood.org.



Pickle Ball?!! Anyone interested in learning the hottest sport in America?!! FPC Hastings is starting a FREE Pickle Ball group. You are invited to come to the FPC P.E.A.C.E Center located at 7th and Lincoln Ave. every Monday from 1:00 to 3:00; Tuesday, 5:30-8:00pm; and Thursday, 5:30-8:00pm. Pickle Ball is a fun blend of ping pong, racquetball, and tennis. It is designed for all ages, a healthy activity for young and old alike. It is much lower impact than tennis but just as fun! All equipment is available; you just need to show up. You will be excited to learn a new sport!!!

Open Table Sack Lunch Assembly begins Sunday, July 7th, following Church and continues the entire month of July.

Come join the fun of working together.

Needed for July:

1. Early birds to arrive at 9:30 Sunday mornings to help set up the assembly tables.
2. Volunteers to stay after church to assemble the sack lunches.
3. People with trucks or large vehicles to help transport the sacks to Catholic Social Services following the assembly and possibly help with other food transportation through the month.
4. A few good cooks (or people who can follow directions) to assist in creating special meals on Monday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00 beginning July 8th.
5. Volunteers to help serve the special meals on Tuesday mornings or afternoons at the Catholic Social Service Office. This requires a background check and a brief online information course that Meg or Jeni can lead you through.
6. Last, but definitely not least, prayers and financial support.



If you have questions, you may call or text: Jeni @ 402-469-1500 or Meg @ 402-902-9330

With our Appreciation and Thanks, Jeni, Meg, and Lily.



First Presbyterian Church-Hastings has an “APP” for you!

Our directory of names, contact information, and corresponding family photos is ready for you to create your login at <http://instantchurchdirectory.com>. You can use the email address from your 2018 listing to gain access because only members will be able to create a login and load an app on their phones.

An additional set of information under the Groups tab is forthcoming. It will include lists of members in each of the boards, committees, and organizations that are a part of the life of our congregation.

Summer Sermon Song Series

May 26: *Jesus is Just Alright* - Doobie Brothers

June 2: *Fight Song* - Rachel Platten

June 16: *I still haven't found what I'm looking for* - U2

June 23: *To Sir, With Love* - Lulu

July 7: *Coming to America* - Neil Diamond

July 14: *Shine* - Collective Soul

July 21: *Man in the Mirror* - Michael Jackson

July 28: *This is me* - Greatest Showman (Musical)

August 4: *One Voice* - Wailin' Jennys

August 11: *I Hope* - Dixie Chicks

August 18: *Bridge Over Troubled Waters* - Simon and Garfunkel

August 25: *Come from Away* (Musical)

September 1: *Better Boat* - Kenny Chesney

September 8: *Beautiful Messes* - Hilary Scott



CLEANING OUT YOUR CLOSETS??



The First Presbyterian Church
and First United Methodist Church
would love to receive your gently used
winter coats for our coat drive that
will be held in October.

Coats of all sizes are needed for
Men, Women and Children.

(Adult XL and XXL are in high need)



Donations accepted now through October at
these Hastings locations:

First Presbyterian Church,
First United Methodist Church, YMCA
and Pershing Orthodontics.

Thank you in advance!!

Home Page Newsletter
First Presbyterian Church
621 North Lincoln Avenue
Hastings, NE 68901
Phone: 402-462-5147, Fax 402-462-6818
Email: fpc@fpchastings.org
Website: www.fpchastings.org

Address Service Requested

The Home Page

A publication of
First Presbyterian Church
621 N. Lincoln Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901

Senior Pastor: Greg Allen-Pickett

Publishing Guidelines: The *Home Page* is a twice monthly publication for the people and mission of First Presbyterian Church.

The newsletter seeks to inform, instruct, and challenge its readers to become engaged in the ministry of FPC.

Articles will be accepted by the Friday prior to publication. Submissions may be edited for length and suitability. You may send articles to the church office: fpc@fpchastings.org or call 402-462-5147.

³Praise be to the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of compassion
and the God of all comfort,
⁴who comforts us in all our troubles,
so that we can comfort those
in any trouble with the comfort
we ourselves receive from God.

2 Corinthians